



## GOVERNOR'S COORDINATING OFFICES

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CRIME CONTROL & PREVENTION • SMALL, MINORITY & WOMEN BUSINESS AFFAIRS  
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**To:** Local Management Board Chairs and Points of Contact

**From:** Glenn Fueston, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

**Date:** January 18, 2019

**Re:** Governor's Office for Children FY 2020 NOFA Updates

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I would like to address some recent concerns that members of the LMB community have raised with our office. After listening to your concerns and completing a comprehensive review of materials related to recent funding announcements, we will make the revisions outlined below for the FY 2020 NOFA. In summary, LMBs should apply for funding consistent with their FY 2019 funding level and strategy.

It is my hope that this is a demonstration of our desire to have open communication with the LMBs and our collective desire to do what's best for the children of Maryland.

### **Funding Eligibility Through FY 2020 NOFA**

In an effort to remain consistent with the objective of the "[Notice of Base Funding Availability Fiscal Year 2019](#); Three Year Community Partnership Agreement (FY19-FY21)," each Local Management Board (Board) may submit an application in response to the [FY 2020 Notice of Funding Availability](#) (FY20 NOFA) for a total funding allocation equal to the Board's FY19 allocation. Funding for Board Support may be adjusted within that allocation.

Because additional funding may be available through the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, each Board may include in its application requests for additional funding.

### **Submission Requirements for FY 2020 NOFA**

The submission requirements for FY20 will remain the same as the [FY20 NOFA](#), posted on December 31, 2018. Proposed changes to programs/strategies from those included in each

Board's FY19 award letter and/or Community Partnership Agreement should include justification for the change.

Jurisdictions will receive an individual score for each program/strategy. Upon completion of the review process, Office staff will notify the Board of the score for each proposed program/strategy and share with the Board any questions or comments from the State Review Team. Each Board will then meet with the State Review Team as scheduled.

This meeting is required and may not be waived by the Board. This meeting will be the only opportunity for the Board to address the questions or concerns raised by the State Review Team and discuss the ranking of each program/strategy proposed. At the conclusion of the meeting, the ranking of each program/strategy may improve or be negatively affected.

These updates will be reflected in a revised version of the FY20 NOFA to be issued upon approval by the Children's Cabinet.

### **FY20 Notice of Funding Availability Question and Answer Recap #1**

**1. Will the same person review all programs/strategies submitted by a Local Management Board?**

Yes.

**2. What is the scoring threshold to access funding for programs/strategies?**

There is no scoring threshold or minimum score. Each program/strategy will be reviewed and scored separately, with a final average score assigned by the State Review Team. All program/strategy/planning pages will be ranked in order of average score. The State Review Team will assess the merits of the proposed program/strategy and may consider the following in making recommendations for funding:

- Final average score assigned to the program/strategy;
- Geographic diversity;
- Crime rates for programs proposed to address the "Safer Maryland" priority;
- How the proposed program/strategy expands/enhances/complements existing programs/services/needs identified;
- The incorporation of a two-generation approach;
- The proposal for an evidence-based home visiting program; and;
- Impact on racial equity.

**3. If a Local Management Board is considering a program/strategy that is a critical local need, but not one of the priorities identified in the Notice of Funding Availability, can a waiver be requested as in previous years?**

Yes, the waiver policy remains in effect for FY 2020.

**4. Will there be funding for the Local Care Team Coordinator in FY20 outside of what's made available via the Notice of Funding Availability? Will the funds be distributed as they were allocated in FY19?**

FY 2020 Local Care Team coordinator funding is not included in the funding identified in the Notice of Funding Availability (see footnotes on page 16). The Local Management Board should complete and submit a Local Care Team Coordinator page as part of its FY 2020 application and identify the amount of funding requested for this purpose for FY 2020. Please note there are no points associated with this request. More details on Local Care Team coordinator funding will be available on or after the FY 2020 budget is presented.

**5. Since the Notice of Funding Availability does not identify an allocation for Local Care Team coordinator funding, can the Board apply for any amount based on Local Care Team needs?**

The Local Management Board should complete and submit a Local Care Team Coordinator page as part of its FY 2020 application and identify the amount of funding requested for this purpose for FY 2020. More details on Local Care Team coordinator funding will be available on or after the FY 2020 budget is presented.

**6. Should the Local Management Board identify specific program/strategy and partners/vendors by name? This would put us out of compliance with our procurement policy. Instead, can we speak to the process through which we'd procure partners/vendors?**

As always, the Board must be in compliance with its procurement policies. It is acceptable to identify a specific program/strategy name and/or vendor, if either is known at the time of application, but there is no requirement to do so.

**7. If funding was approved in a previous year for planning, but that planning work has not concluded, can the Local Management Board apply for funding for continued planning in FY20? Conversely, can a new request for planning be included in the application?**

Yes. Boards may request to utilize funding for new or continuing planning activities and should submit a completed program/strategy page that includes a thorough description of the specific planning activities that require funding. It is not necessary to provide evidence of effectiveness or to propose performance measures for planning activities identified in the application. Full points for the evidence of effectiveness and performance measures sections will be assigned to program/strategy pages that clearly articulate that planning activities are proposed.

**8. Can the Local Management Board fund programs/strategies that prevent a young person from officially becoming Opportunity Youth vs. solely strategies/programs that re-engage youth after they are no longer in school and/or the workplace?**

Yes. On page 7 of the Notice of Funding Availability, it states:

*Most funded programs/strategies will address either the Result of “Youth Will Complete School” or “Youth Have Opportunities for Employment or Career Readiness” and will focus on reconnecting the out-of-school population to work or school or preventing youth from becoming disconnected in the future.*

**9. When reviewing each program/strategy will the decision be a blanket yes or no to fund or will there be an opportunity for negotiation regarding cost and/or scope?**

Upon completion of the review process, Office staff will notify the Board of the score for each program/strategy proposed and any questions or comments from the State Review Team. Each Board will then meet with the State Review Team as scheduled. This meeting is the only opportunity for the Board to address the questions/concerns/comments raised by the State Review Team and discuss the ranking of each program/strategy proposed. The meeting is required and may not be waived by the Board. At the conclusion of the meeting, the ranking of each program/strategy may improve or be negatively affected.

**10. Does the Notice of Funding Availability say that program dollars are now competitive?**

In accordance with the information provided in this memo, each Local Management Board (Board) should submit an application in response to the FY20 NOFA for both Board Support and programs/strategies equal to its FY 2019 allocation. Funding for Board Support may be adjusted within that allocation.

**11. If the Local Care Team coordinator funding is in the General Fund for FY 2020, is it a line item that can be identified?**

More details on Local Care Team coordinator funding will be available on or after the FY 2020 budget is presented.

**12. Why was a decision made to make the program/strategy funding competitive?**

Please see the updated information provided in this memo.

**13. How does the Governor’s Office for Children see competitive funding as a fair process?**

Please see the updated information provided in this memo.

**14. Is Local Care Team coordinator funding limited to salary in FY20?**

The Local Management Board should complete and submit a Local Care Team Coordinator page as part of its FY20 application and identify the amount of funding requested for this purpose for FY 2020. The budget may include line items that are not for personnel. These requests will be considered in accordance with available funding.

**15. The NOFA states one program/strategy page should be completed and submitted for each program/strategy proposed and also states the program/strategy page should be single-spaced and double-sided. For clarity does this mean one piece of paper? Can bullets be used for discussions, a detailed planning description, performance data in chart form, etc. in the narrative sections or are paragraphs required?**

A single program/strategy template should be completed and submitted for each program/strategy/planning request. There is no page limit for the completed template; however, the Board is encouraged to provide clear and concise information that will support the need for the request.

**16. What citations are needed that identify that the program/strategy is a critical need for the community (provide link, data identification, etc.)?**

All data and references to published material, research, etc. that are included in the application must be cited using a standard format that will allow the reviewer to easily identify and investigate the noted sources.

**17. The high-scoring FY19 applications that were shared last June are not accessible because the FY19 NOFA folder is no longer in the Google Drive. Can access be granted again?**

The two applications that were shared have been reposted to the Google Drive.

**18. If indirect costs need to be included for one of our vendors in the FY20 NOFA budget, should we request a waiver before submitting the application, after or within the application?**

The waiver can be requested at any time, but must be submitted and approved before a contract can be issued for execution.